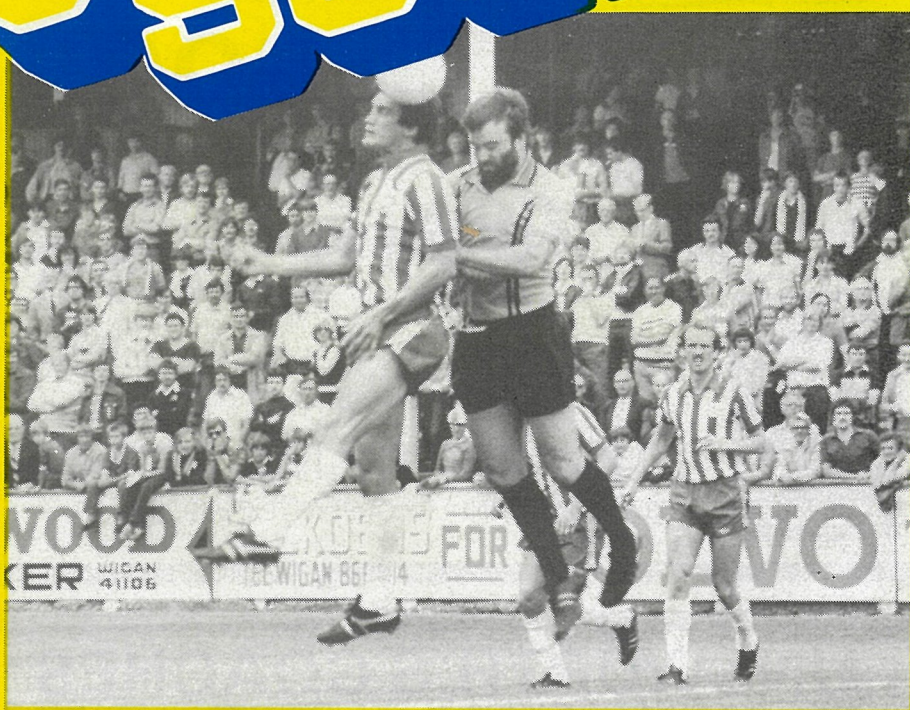


25p

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC

SPRINGFIELD SCENE



Saturday, 9th August, 1980 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP - FIRST ROUND - FIRST LEG

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- CREWE ALEXANDRA

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MY POINT OF VIEW

Good Afternoon All.

A very warm welcome to you all for this our third season in the Football League. A season which I hope will see us make progress to

the Third Division, because I can assure you everything at this club is geared towards a steady climb to the top.

Quite a few changes have taken place since last season in our playing personnel. New signings Bob Hutchinson, Lawrence Tierney, Jim Oliver and youngster Dave Tait from Burnley have settled in well with the rest of the lads and the spirit is as good as ever.

Obviously we are hoping for a good start by beating Crewe and getting the chance to meet the big guns in the Second Round of the League

Cup, but this will certainly not be easy, and no doubt Tony Waddington, to whom I offer a warm welcome, will be as anxious as I am to make the start of the season a successful one. Whatever may happen in our cup tie, I sincerely wish Tony the best of luck for the rest of the season.

I would like at this stage to thank the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Horrocks, for all his help, and I look forward eagerly to working with Freddie Pye, our new Chairman. We have always had a close affinity in the past, I know we think alike on football, and I am sure we will have a successful partnership which can in the end provide the right future for this great club.

Enjoy today's game,

Ian McNeill.

Front page photo — "Newcomer Bobby Hutchinson gets in his header in spite of the challenge of East Fife defender Jim Scott." (Photo by courtesy of the Evening Post and Chronicle)

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GREAT NAMES FROM THE PAST

BY HAROLD ASHURST

IT IS doubtful whether many of the people watching the first match of the season against Crewe Alexandra today will cast their minds back to the formation of the Wigan Athletic Football Club nearly fifty years ago.

When Wigan Borough went into liquidation in 1931 there was no top class soccer in the town until a group of prominent men banded together with the idea of forming another "senior" soccer team for Wigan. The men, seven of them, including Jack Farrimond who is still a Board member today, together formed a steering committee with the purpose of getting a new club off the ground.

President of the committee was Joseph Howarth, destined to be the club's first chairman, and he was backed

up in his unstinting efforts by Charles Ostick, Richard Farrimond (the father of Jack Farrimond), George Woods, Peter Dwyer, Tom Heywood, and Jack Farrimond, who was appointed Secretary. One other man was in on the formation and he will be featured later; the club's first manager, Charlie Spencer.

Brief background details of the Committeemen, who used to meet in the Bull's Head pub in Wigan Town Centre, is as follows:

Charles Ostick — founder of Wigan Printing Company and a man who excelled as a full back for Bolton Wanderers in the late 1890's.

Richard Farrimond — colliery winding engineer and music teacher; Mr. Farrimond died fifteen years ago.

George Woods — one of the younger members of the committee and an Ashton newsagent.

Peter Dwyer — another "Ashtonian" and a railway clerk.

Tom Heywood — "mine host" of the Bull's Head pub (the pub is now demolished and Curry's electrical shop stands in its place).

Jack Farrimond — former clerk at the Wigan Borough Football Club. He joined the committee, in his own words, "to take notes of the meetings" and has been associated with Wigan Athletic ever since.

The idea for a new club was mooted, it is believed, in the Pagefield Hotel, when two of the gentlemen decided to do something about there being no senior football team in the town.

An advert was placed in the Wigan Observer inviting interested parties to attend a meeting at the Queen's Hall. There was some doubt about the numbers who would attend but no one needed to have worried — the Queen's Hall was packed!! Football was born in Wigan again.

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by Fred Eyre

THE CLOSE SEASON these days is almost non-existent for the top international soccer stars and it is becoming increasingly shorter for players at all levels. Wigan Reserves finished last season on a high note, in a very respectable third place, despite a run of games which saw us lose only once from October to the final game at the end of April. To only finish third in spite of a magnificent run like this shows the quality of the teams to finish above us — Tranmere Rovers, the eventual winners, and Liverpool.

Dave Brooks and I then enjoyed a

wonderful week's break in the Malta sunshine with the first team players, before getting back to the job of seeing all the young trialists who had shown a desire to sign for Wigan.

This is the beginning of the third campaign for "Brooky" and myself and the continuity of the job is of immense benefit to the young hopeful players who come down for trials.

We are now experienced enough to know the standards required for both the Reserve and Youth Teams, having been in charge of the Reserves since its re-introduction when Wigan were admitted into the Football League.

Last season was the first for the youth team who also had a successful time, and, as before, David Crompton will be the man in charge, so keeping our little staff together all thinking along the same lines, and aiming to produce fine and respectable young players to ensure a sound future for the Wigan Athletic Football Club for years to come.

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GOOD AFTERNOON everybody, and welcome to the first game of the new season. It hardly seems five minutes since we were drawing the curtain on the end of the 1979/1980 season, yet here we are again full of optimism and looking forward to a successful year ahead.

Many, many things have taken up the time of the Commercial Department during the short close season, with all facets of our organisation receiving consideration and plans being laid to make the months ahead more productive for the Wigan Athletic Football Club.

Much of our time has been spent in recruiting advertisers for the match programme and boards around the ground. In view of the fact that our local area is experiencing something of a mini-recession, the response from local business organisations has been first-class. To these people in particular, I offer my sincere thanks and the gratitude of the Football Club for their welcome support. The sign-writers entrusted with the painting of the boards have undertaken their far from easy task most willingly and efficiently. You will observe that some spaces still remain to be filled, but I can assure you that apart from an isolated board here and there, all sites at pitch level have been taken up. It now remains to put in additional effort to sell the more costly advertisements in elevated positions. It is

not normally my practice to isolate any individual organisation, but I must draw attention to the excellent work of Mr. Green in taking up the advertisement on the fascia of the Main Stand.

Our new-style programme, the lottery, the Soccer Shop and other related matters have taken up much valuable time, but lack of space prevents me writing more on this theme at the present time. I am sure that the evidence of your own eyes, and the information supplied in this column throughout the year, will amply illustrate the value of our thriving Commercial Department. My thanks to all those who have contributed to the success of our efforts. I promise you an interesting year ahead.

Our match sponsor and ball donor for today's game can be counted as real friends of the Wigan Athletic Football Club. Micron Electrical Company, our match sponsor, and T. C. Jackson & Sons, our ball donor, have often completed work of quality for the club, and we would ask our supporters to show their appreciation by doing business with the firms concerned should the opportunity arise.

Enjoy today's game and the season ahead,

Jack Sudworth,
Commercial Manager.



Springfield Park
Wigan
9th August, 1980

Dear Reader,

It is my pleasure to introduce this new feature in our programme. It is a space which we hope you will fill with enlightened comment and opinion sufficient to stimulate others to air their views.

At the outset we must lay down certain simple ground rules which, if observed, should help to produce a lively and valuable section of our programme. Although constructive criticism will always be welcome, we do not anticipate being able to offer correspondents the opportunity or space to make attacks on the directors, manager, players or the Wigan Athletic Football Club in general. We are seeking to encourage the thoughtful soccer-lover, not the mindless critic whose sole purpose is to belittle and deride the efforts of others. Furthermore, I have always believed that any person putting pen to paper should be prepared to back the courage of his or her convictions by stating his or her name and address, thus inviting the right of reply.

It will be impossible to publish every letter received, but, as an incentive, we will present a complimentary ticket for the next "home" game to each person who has a letter reproduced in this section. Address your letters to "LETTERBOX", WIGAN ATHLETIC COMMERCIAL DEPT., SPRINGFIELD PARK, WIGAN, LANCASHIRE. Keep your letters brief and to the point, and obey the ground rules.

I look forward to hearing from you soon,

All best wishes,
Jack Sudworth, Commercial Manager.

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PHOTOFILE



WIGAN ATHLETIC (Season 1980-1981) — Left to right **Back Row:** Tony Quinn, Mike Quinn, George McAllister, Lawrence Tierney, Jeff Wright, Paul Hendry, David Tait. **Middle Row:** Ian Gillibrand (Coach), George Urquhart, Jim Oliver, Neil Davids, John Brown, Bob Ward, Colin Methven, Peter Houghton, Frank Corrigan, Ken Banks (Trainer/Coach). **Front Row:** Maurice Whittle, Mark Wignall, John Curtis, Tommy Gore, Ian McNeill (Manager), Dave McMullan, Bob Hutchinson, David Glenn and Dave Fretwell.



This page has

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All eyes are on Peter Houghton as he makes his move down the wing and prepares to bring a colleague into the game.

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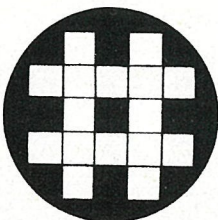


PASTIME-FUNTIME

ON THE BALL No. 1

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

Johnson or Jones; Nickname of Torquay; Old-timer Meredith, maybe; The Hammers have it.



© MIKE TURNER CARTOONS

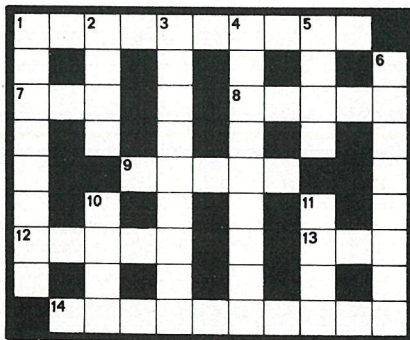
MIXED DOUBLES No. 1

Rearrange the letters in each of the words **ROMEO** and **STEW** to find the names of two ex-England men.

CLUB CLUE No. 1

Solve this cryptic clue to identify a soccer side:

How you'd fix some parts to your car.



SOCCER NINETY-NINER

No. 1 (compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS:

1. One of the two clubs last season to win promotion on goal difference (10)
7. Atkins or Allinson (3)
8. He managed Coventry before Storer and again before Hill (5)
9. Colour that famous keeper Lev Yashin usually wore (5)
12. Keeper who conceded only one goal in his three matches in the 1980 British Championship (5)
13. — of play (3)
14. Forward who began with Blackpool, moved on to York then Darlington, and was with Rochdale last season (6, 4)

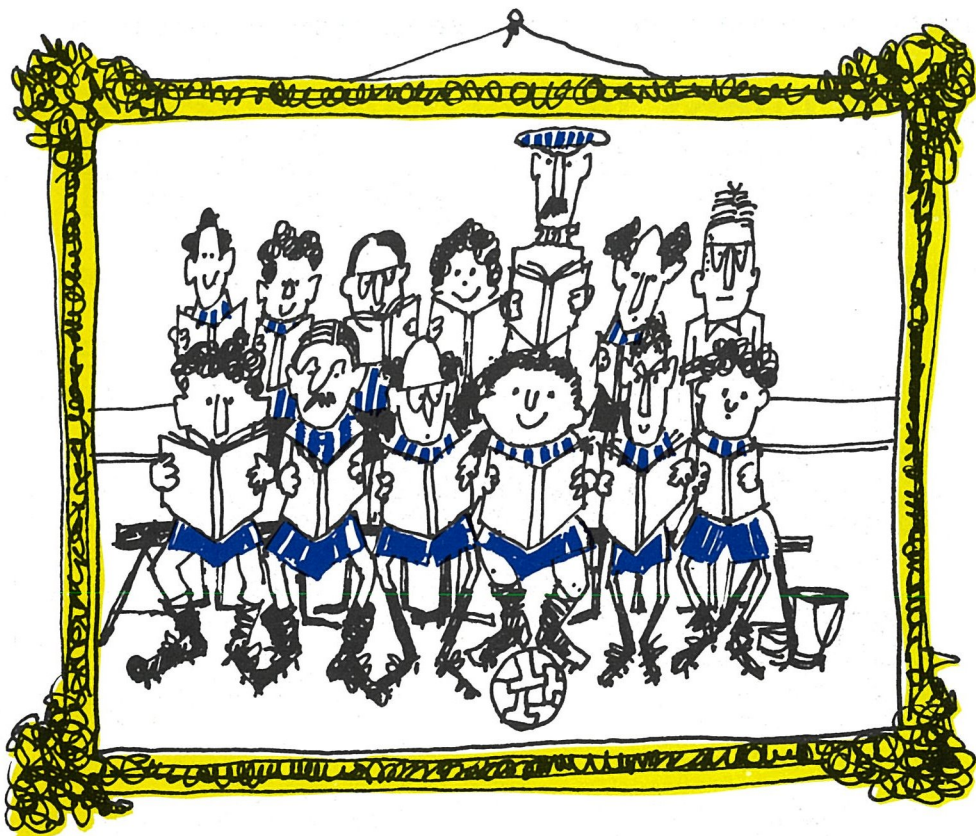
DOWN:

1. Regular midfielder with Wales throughout the 1970s and on into the 1980s (8)
2. One of the Van der Kerkhofs (4)
3. An Irishman with Arsenal for the last few seasons (9)
4. Referees and linesmen (9)
5. Commit a foul (4)
6. Former England star who was in Italy with BBC-tv during the European Championships last summer (8)
10. England's Thomas (4)
11. Club that Alec Stock managed in between Orient and QPR (4)

1980/81 series
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Answers on Page 22.





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OUR VISITORS



CREWE ALEXANDRA Season 1980-1981 (Left to right) **Back Row:** John McMahon, Terry Conroy, Bob Scott, Ken Mulhearn, Colin Chesters, Mick Guy, Colin Prohett (Player / Coach). **Front Row:** Ian (Danny) Bowers, Kevin Lewis, Neil Wilkinson, Dennis Nelson (Captain), Geoff Hunter, Dai Davies.

Photo by courtesy of Robert Sproston.

TODAY we welcome Crewe Alexandra for our "home" leg of the First Round of this year's Football League Cup Competition. For both Wigan and Crewe victory in the First Round could be the passport to a Second Round game with one of Soccer's major clubs and all the consequent financial benefits that would materialise. With this in mind, we look forward eagerly to two highly competitive games against our near neighbours from Cheshire. In our four league fixtures against "The Railwaymen" since we joined the Football League we have had to struggle hard for supremacy. Although we did enough to win both games at Springfield Park, we have only managed to gain one point from the two games played at Gresty Road. In the four games Wigan have scored five goals, while Crewe, having failed to score in their previous visits to Springfield Park, have notched three goals at home. The stage is set then for two dour encounters. Should Crewe

make progress to the Second Round, their followers will hail the success as the light at the end of the tunnel after a bleak period. Should Wigan lose, local fans will be plunged into early season despondency and their heroes will be left with the difficult task of raising not only their own morale but also the spirits of their own supporters who are already talking "promotion" before a ball has been kicked in the league competition.

Supporters of both sides are reminded that should the aggregate scores be level after the completion of the two "legs", thirty minutes of extra time will be played at Crewe. Should the scores remain equal after the completion of extra time, away goals scored in both legs will count "double". Should the scores still remain equal, the tie will be decided by penalty-kicks. Who knows, we may be in for a night of high drama at Gresty Road on Wednesday, 13th August, and an American-style shoot-out!

CREWE ALEXANDRA

Pen Pictures

Manager of Crewe Alexandra, Waddington, this be season in that cap respected figure through was himself a former player in the club's colours. When he left the club he made the short of it and was with the Pottery for a period of twenty five years before he came to bring success to the club this Season.

IAN (DANNY) BOWER — Ian's second season at Crewe, he was formerly with Stoke City and made his first Division side last Season and was found in the left back position.

COLIN CHESTERS — Colin joined Derby County in 1978 and developed through the club's youth scheme. When at the club he made a number of appearances in the league side. Was signed by Crewe last Season and made his debut in the league side. Now full of confidence after a neck injury which kept him out during the latter part of last Season.

TERRY CONROY — A player who gained international experience with Stoke City. Played in the Stoke side and when he and them went to Hong Kong, this country teamed up with them only made 7 appearances. Terry kept him out of action for a while recovered and looking for a return to the first team this Season.

PETER COYNE — Last Season he had a lean one on the goal, just 2 goals. In the two games he had finished as the top scorer. His league career with Manchester United and his spell with Ashton United in the County League.

DAVID (DAI) DAVIES — David with the Gresty Road since the Summer of 1975. He was an apprentice with Swansea City and signed on full time terms with Crewe. Can operate equally effectively in both halves of the pitch.

andra F.C. is Tony
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journey to Stoke
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Gresty Road side

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Born locally he
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then had a short
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— Has now been
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e had been an
ea City but was
by Harry Gregg.
ectively whether

in a wing forward position or in the centre
of the attack. Made 23 appearances last
Season.

MICK GUY — Came from Sheffield
United in September 1979 and was a
regular in the line up for the rest of the
Season. A skilful player who scored 6
goals in 37 league games last Season. A
favourite with the fans.

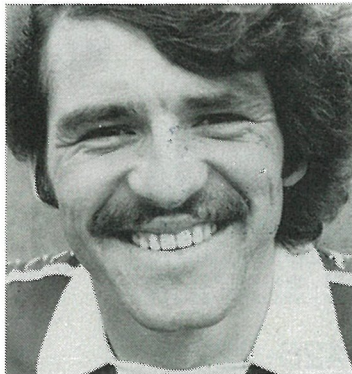
GEOFF HUNTER — Born in Hull, his
career started with Manchester United
and this will be his second Season at
Gresty Road. Only slightly built has a
tremendous capacity for work. Normally
plays in a right sided midfield position.

KEVIN LEWIS — Born Hull. Started his
career with Manchester United and then
moved to Stoke City. Came to Gresty Road
last Season and played in a variety of
positions and made 25 league
appearances.

JOHN McMAHON — Joined the Crewe
staff in October 1979. A very experienced
player for he was with Preston North End
for many Seasons playing mostly in the
full back position. Occupied a midfield
role for Crewe last Season in his 28
games.

KEN MULHEARN — Only recently
signed for the club. A keeper with a
wealth of experience with Manchester
City, Stockport County and Shrewsbury
Town. Was released from the Gay
Meadow club at the end of last Season.
Should prove to be a useful signing.

DENNIS NELSON — Appointed as the
club Captain last Season. This is his



second spell with the Gresty Road club for
when he moved from Scotland he came to
Crewe and stayed until 1976 when he
went to Reading. Always occupied one of
the front striking positions and enjoys
scoring goals.

MARK PALIOS — Came from Tranmere
Rovers part way through last Season and
played in all the remaining games. A
university graduate was on the Prenton
Park Staff for several seasons. A midfield
player but also has the knack of scoring
important goals.

COLIN PROPHETT — Has played in all
the divisions of the Football League. Born
in Crewe, played in the reserve side as an
amateur but his professional career
started at Sheffield Wednesday.
Player/coach to the side he proved to be a
great inspiration to the team last Season.
A central defender played in 33
consecutive games for the club last
Season.

BOB SCOTT — Born in Liverpool. His
playing career started with Wrexham
followed by a spell on loan to Reading. His
next move was to Hartlepool and to



Rochdale. This will be his second Season
at Crewe and he should add many more to
his total of 42 league games last Season.

NEIL WILKINSON — Since his move to
Crewe from Port Vale in October 1978,
Neil has been a regular member of the
league side mainly in the right back
position. His career started with
Blackburn Rovers followed by a spell in
South Africa. A very popular member of
the staff.

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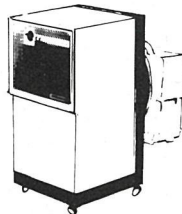
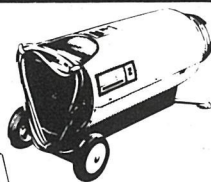
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PLAYER

John Christopher Brown

(Goalkeeper)

Birthplace: **Bradford.**

Place of Residence: **Wigan.**

Date of Birth:

30th December, 1947.

Height: **5' 11½"**

Weight: **12st. 7lbs.**

Previous Professional Clubs:

**Preston North End and
Stockport County.**

Advice to Youngsters: **Train
hard and learn the basics.**

John made his debut in League Football with Preston North End against Bolton Wanderers in 1965. He has made 136 appearances in Football League games.



Photo by courtesy of the Wigan Reporter

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A VERY GOOD afternoon to all our club members and supporters from the Staff and Committee at the "Latics Club" and welcome to Springfield Park for the first competitive match of the 1980/81 Season.

I would like to refer to the notes we made in the match programme towards the end of last season, with reference to our supporters visiting "away" matches and being offered the hospitality of the supporters' clubs at these grounds. Twice during the close season we have attended federation meetings and this matter has been discussed, but I regret that no positive information or legislation is yet available. However, I have written to the officials of the clubs concerned with the first of our "away" games and I am still awaiting a reply.

One point I must make, is that, if a satisfactory arrangement can be made, it must be understood that it will apply only to supporters travelling with the "official Supporters' Club coach or coaches". I will offer more details of arrangements as soon as I receive replies to my letters.

During the close season, the social life at the club has kept everyone concerned very busy, and we have had some outstanding performances from a variety of entertainers on stage.

Our bowls' members have done a great job, without having a lot of luck or success in their matches, but I am confident next season will see them well-established and a force to be reckoned with.

The cricket section entered for both the Spring

View and Norley Hall Knock-Out competitions, and have won their way through to the final of the Norley Hall competition which will be played at Norley Hall on Sunday, 17th August, 1980. The opposition will be provided by Leigh Athletic Club.

Once again, welcome to Springfield Park and remember, whether a regular or first-time visitor, there is always a warm reception for you in the club.

Sincerely,
Peter Woods.



ONCE AGAIN in the close season there has been a hive of transfer activity affecting clubs in the lower division. While transfer fees generally continue to spiral it appears that most Division Four managers have stuck to the bargain basement in their search for new blood.

Most moves have involved little or no money, but one Division Four player to attract a huge fee was Danny Wilson who signed for Chesterfield from Bury for £100,000.

Meanwhile, at Edgar Street, Hereford United have signed a host of new players. The United have brought in Jimmy Harvey from Arsenal, Garry Lowe from Manchester City, Richard Overson from Burnley and Mel Pejic from Stoke City. They have also been bidding to sign a Polish international player.

Bradford City have lost the services of strong-running centre half Stephen Baines, who has moved to Walsall. The fee is expected to be settled by an independent tribunal.

Halifax Town have made two captures in Ken Burton from Chesterfield and Steve Ward from Northampton Town.

Meanwhile Hartlepool United have signed

former Sunderland player Bobby Kerr and former Preston and Newcastle defender John Bird. Peterborough United have paid Grantham £10,000 for Rob Cook and sold goalkeeper Paul Overson to Northampton Town.

Scunthorpe United, who will again have the benefit of the services of England cricket captain Ian Botham, have signed Anton Lambert from non-league Nuneaton Borough, Nick Jarvis from Grantham and Phil Ashworth from Portsmouth.

Rochdale's new manager Peter Madden has been busy building up his depleted squad. His first signing was Eugene Martinez from Bradford City, and, since then, he has added Peter Burke from Halifax Town, Barry Wellings and Alan Jones from York City and Burnley's Eric Probert.

Eddie Prudham has moved on from Stockport County to A.F.C. Bournemouth, but the Edgeley Park side have signed Martin Fowler from Blackburn Rovers. Darlington have unloaded Clive Nattress to Halifax Town and relegated Mansfield Town have recruited goalkeeper Colin King from Clydebank.

It all makes for an interesting start to the season!

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SCENE & HEARD

THE WIGAN Athletic Football Club would like to place on record its appreciation to all those firms and individuals who have worked at the ground during the close season. At times the going has been very tough indeed, particularly for the ground staff who have had to carry out some very heavy work, often in appalling weather. The fruits of their labours are there for all to see.

Welcome to all newcomers to the club. We hope your stay with us will be long and enjoyable.

News has reached us that four of our former players have joined non-league clubs. Derek Brownbill has moved to Stafford Rangers, Alan Crompton is already enjoying early success at Runcorn, Micky Moore has signed up for Barrow, while Kevin Smart has really gone far to Folkestone Town, for whom he scored against Deal in a pre-season game. We wish them well with their new clubs and again thank them for their past efforts for our club.

British Rail have informed us of their intention

to run several trains to away games during the coming season. Also under consideration are Mini-Weekends to Torquay, Bournemouth and London (Wimbledon). Still on transport, negotiations are taking place with principal local coach operators with a view to providing a booking service for away games through the Soccer Shop.

Several new lines will be on sale from the Soccer Shop in the near future. Fans are asked to keep their eyes open for the latest additions to official club souvenir items.

In future, every effort will be made to sell programmes from selling points within the confines of the club's boundary walls. Eventually it is hoped to have in operation three "home" and one "away" selling points for Ground spectators and two selling points, as previously, in the Main Stand. Cushions are now available for hire in the Main Stand at a cost of ten pence per cushion.

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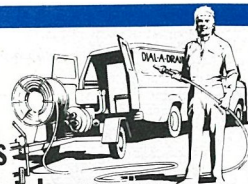
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CREWE ALEXANDRA
-v-
WIGAN ATHLETIC

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The Chairman's Column

IT GOES without saying that I am most proud and privileged to have become Chairman of Wigan Athletic, a wonderful club with a great future.

During my twelve years at Altrincham, I was a regular visitor to Springfield Park and I have often matched my wits against Allan Brown, Gordon Milne and Ian McNeill, and many is the time that I have pondered on how to tame the likes of Harry Lyon, John Ryan and Peter Higham. Wigan was always a Club to be treated with respect. "IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE TREATED WITH RESPECT", that I promise you. I am well aware of my responsibilities and I have not got an easy task.

The budget and anticipated expenditure for the current year will be around £430,000. It's frightening, isn't it, but that is what it costs to run a good Fourth Division club these days.

Last year, the club made over £90,000 profit which was due to the shrewdness of Ian McNeill who pulled off over £200,000 from transfer fees and the magnificent Cup run. Without these efforts, and without Jack Sudworth's donations and good work, the loss would have reached "nightmare" proportions, well in excess of £100,000.

With this in mind, it is imperative that the club remains solvent and viable. Caution is very necessary and my Vice-Chairman, Graham Gornor, who is in charge of finance, will have the thankless task of balancing the books.

I would like to welcome several newcomers to Springfield Park. My old friend, Bobby Charlton, a man with a wealth of experience and an excellent reputation in the game of Football, was delighted to join me at the start of my work for the Wigan Athletic Football Club. Company Secretary Eric Jones and Groundsman Billy Mitchell have already impressed with the conscientious and efficient manner in which they have taken up their new duties, while, for the first time, in the Reverend Dennis Hall, the club will have the services of a Chaplain, already known for his keen interest in local football.

Finally, I must thank my colleagues on the Board of Directors for their very warm Wigan welcome. I am particularly pleased that Arthur Horrocks, who has served the club so well in the past, has agreed to become our first President.

Best wishes for the new season,

Freddie Pye

FREDDIE PYE
Chairman.

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Wigan Athletic

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& White Stripes)

| | | |
|------------------|----|----------------|
| John Brown | 1 | Ken Mulhearn |
| Dave Fretwell | 2 | Neil Wilkinson |
| Maurice Whittle | 3 | Ian Bowers |
| Tommy Gore | 4 | Geoff Hunter |
| Colin Methven | 5 | Bob Scott |
| Neil Davids | 6 | Colin Prophet |
| David McMullan | 7 | John McMahon |
| Jeff Wright | 8 | Mick Guy |
| Peter Houghton | 9 | Dai Davies |
| Bob Hutchinson | 10 | Mark Palios |
| Lawrence Tierney | 11 | Terry Conroy |
| George Urquhart | 12 | Bob Mountford |

Crewe Alexandra

(Red Shirts)

OFFICIALS

Referee:

MR. KEITH S. HACKETT
(Sheffield)

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1960 in Sheffield and
progressed via Yorkshire
and Northern Premier
Leagues to the Football
League line and full list.

Has officiated as
linesman and referee at
several important Football
Association and Football
League fixtures including
Semi-Final and Final
games. Married, with two
sons, he is a Sales
Manager. His interests
are caravanning, all
sports and walking.

Linesmen:

Red Flag

MR. D. B. SCRIMSHAW
(Cheadle)

Yellow Flag

MR. R. F. NIXON
(Poynton)

HERE NEXT

Saturday, 16th August, 1980.
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

**WIGAN ATHLETIC -v-
HARTLEPOOL UNITED**

Football League Division 4